

# Avila Examiner

Volume 12, No. 7

Avila College, Kansas City, MO

February 4, 1988

## HOMELESSNESS

### The Great Avila Sleepout

By Patrick C. Wood

Avila College was the spotlight of a sleepout organized by Avila College for Social Concerns on January 19th. ACSC built a shanty out of cardboard, wooden pallets and plastic in the middle of the quad between O'Rielly and Marian Centre.

The purpose of the sleepout was to kick-off the groups' Homeless project by increasing the campus' and the greater Kansas City area's awareness of the plight of the homeless in our community.

"We wanted to do something on a social justice issue that was locally oriented to the Kansas City area. Kansas City has a substantial amount of homeless; ten to fourteen thousand. There are a number of homeless shelters in the area; Legal Aide now has a

homeless division and tries to help the homeless through government assistance," commented Tim Barchak, one of ACSC's executive chairpersons. "ACSC is in its third year. It originated when a group of students at Avila wanted to deal with social justice issues; going beyond the traditional response of charity to social problems. ACSC responds by studying a situation and looking at possible changes in systems and what can be done to help people ... we are like a campus ministry, poli-sci and social work club all combined into one," added Mr. Barchak.

"The reason I slept out was because I wanted to get a feeling of what it would be like to be homeless ... I was freezing, my feet were getting numb ... if we didn't have a

sleeping bag or cover it would've been pretty rough to survive. I kinda felt we were cheating with the sleeping bags, because the homeless don't have sleeping bags," said Jack Park, junior Business major.

"It was cold and wet. The plastic over the top wasn't totally tied down -- when the wind blew, it blew off," said Linda Brod, sophomore Nursing major. "I slept in spurts of a minute at a time. It was too cold to sleep. I laid there, and thought about many different things, ... like, how long it was taking for the night to pass by, and how lucky I was to sleep in a warm bed the next night," she added.

"The sleepout made us more aware of how fragile our lives are. If it weren't for the grace of God we all could be in the same situation the homeless are in," commented Marya Anne Ripperger, sophomore Music/English major.

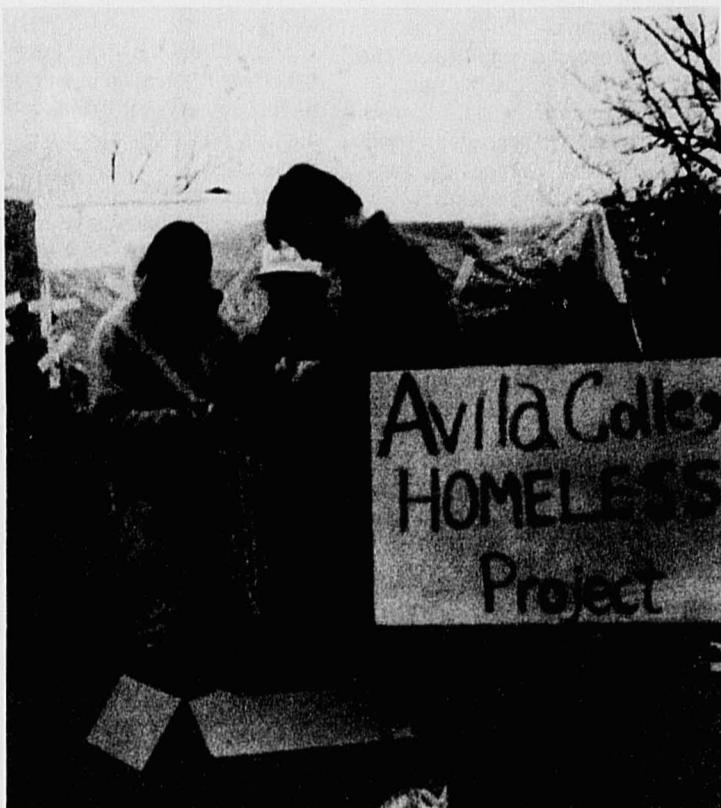
"It was good to see a young group of concerned students thinking about the plight of the homeless. It made a good impression --because normally you don't see young people thinking that way. In a way, it makes the older generation more compassionate -- because sometimes we become so complacent," said Jacque Thompson, Assistant Evening Librarian.

The club is also planning a picnic for the homeless at Barney Allis Plaza, March 26th. "Our goal is to reach out to 1000 Kansas City homeless. Perhaps, people will gain an interest in helping people annually, by helping throughout the year. You hear so much about them (the homeless) at Thanksgiving and Christmas, but they exist every day of the year," said Marya Anne Ripperger.

"If anyone would like to get involved in our homeless project, right now, most of the committees still need people to help with the planning; but the closer we get to spring we'll be needing volunteers to help cook and so forth," added Tim Barchak.



Photographed by Candis Donell



Photographed by Candis Donell

### Experiencing Poverty Within

By Gina Shay

The homeless population no longer consists solely of drug dealers, drunks, and prostitutes. A staggering number of educated, middle-class families are slipping into homelessness.

Homelessness. It is a hot topic in the news. It affects others, but not us. Too many times we become so involved with our own busy lives that we distance ourselves from the problems facing our world, our country, and our city.

In an effort to make ourselves more aware of the plight of the homeless, Avila College for Social Concerns (ACSC) is sponsoring a Day of Fasting on Tuesday, February 16. Historically, fasting is a way of self-sacrifice. By giving up

nourishment and becoming symbolically poor, we can experience real hunger. We can feel a lacking, a need, a poverty within. The Day of Fasting is a personal, private way for all of us to help the poor.

There will be collection sites in every building on campus. ACSC asks us to donate the money we typically spend on a day's worth of food. The money will be used to help fund "People for People: A Brighter Day in Kansas City", Avila's picnic for the homeless in Barney Allis Plaza on Saturday, March 26.

This Day of Fasting is an opportunity to educate ourselves and change a small part of our world. Please join us.



Photographed by Candis Donell

## Working in Kentucky

By Patrick C. Wood

A group of five Avila students and two staff members spent part of their Christmas vacations working with the servite sisters in the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky.

The group consisted of Geri Sudtelge, Patti Kampeter, Jack Park, Shannon Ennis, Patrick Wood, Beth Maren, and Julie Kovich. The seven drove eighteen hours from Kansas City, Missouri to Harlan, Kentucky.

Harlan is a small mining county located in the southeastern part of the state. It has a population of 75,000. Most of the people there used to make their living working in the mines, until mining com-

panies began to close and sell their mines in order to break the strength of the local unions.

With many of the mines closed, much of the population has been left unemployed. They have no means of support. Families have been left to live a life of poverty and strife.

The servite sisters are missionaries who organize relief for the needy families of Harlan. They are a source of food, clothing, coal, small monetary loans, education, and religious instruction.

Throughout the year, volunteers (like the group from Avila) visit Harlan, Kentucky and assist the sisters and the community in any

way they can.

"We organized and stored food and garments, distributed food, mingled with people, participated in a workday, tutored in the school, and climbed mountains," commented Jack Park, junior Business major.

"I think Avila should sponsor more trips like this one ... so the other students can have the chance to experience this -- and appreciate the food, school and dorm rooms," said Shannon Ennis, senior Chemistry major. "It gives us a chance to practice what we believe. Being a Christian is more than just going to mass every Sunday," added Patti Kampeter, junior Nursing major.

## The Chaplain's Corner

### A New Year's Resolution

By Fr. Mike Zahorchak

On or about New Year's Day, maybe you did something old-fashioned and, what some might consider 'corny', i.e. you made some New Year's Resolutions. Well, I did -- and I would like to share both the resolution and the background which prompted this particular one.

The resolution: To Make The Most of The Present Moment.

At first glance, this doesn't seem too profound; it certainly isn't original. (Spiritual writers have been saying this for centuries.)

But what is profound and original are the circumstances which prompted it.

In the 3 weeks surrounding the Christmas holidays, I was involved in 4 deaths: (the last one was officiating at a funeral on January 2.) These were the demises of relatives or close friends, who spent the holidays in an emotional vacuum, because none of these people expected to die. Their families had no inkling that on January 1, 1988, their loved one would not be here.

Needless to say, you can't be involved in grief and prayers for the dead and funeral Masses and cemeteries during holidays which are of their essence joyous and 'family-oriented' without being affected.

I was 'affected' with, and by, the following thoughts:

a.) when all is said and done, what control do we really have over our lives? How much of an input do we have over our own destinies? Sure,

we must have a dream, some plan for the future --marriage, family, college, job etc. A dream shows that we have hope, and we cannot live without hope. But how much of a guarantee do we have that we will ever fulfill our plans?

We don't have control over yesterday -- it's gone; it's history.

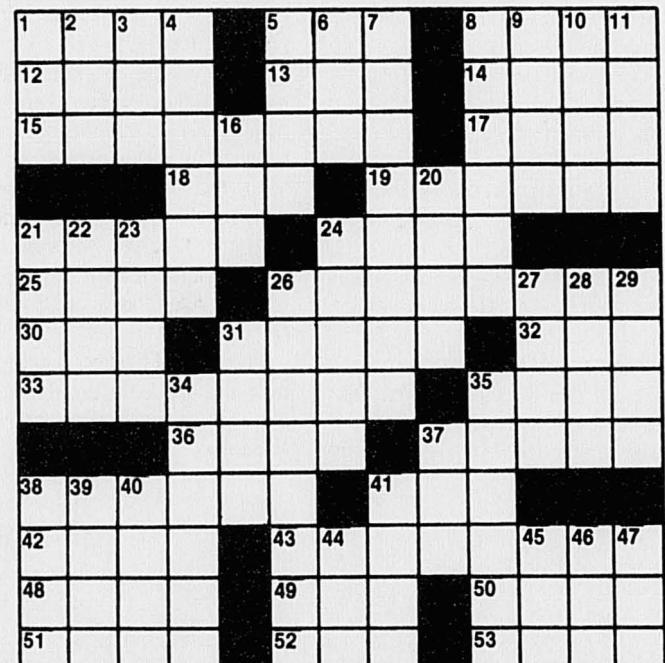
And we don't have control over tomorrow, because tomorrow never comes! When it does come, then it's no longer 'tomorrow'; it's today.

So the only moment over which we have any control is NOW, the present moment. It is in the NOW that we have the opportunity to fulfill ourselves as human beings, to worship God, to love our neighbor. We can't plan on doing this in any aspect of a tomorrow, (e.g. a week, 2 weeks from now) because no one promised us a tomorrow, not even God.

But to live the present moment demands a conscious control over our thoughts about yesterday or tomorrow --control over regretting some part of the past, or trying to re-live it; control over being anxious or worried about an 'impending doom', or planning on a happiness that will 'probably' occur IF particular circumstances develop.

Maybe Teresa of Avila, our patroness, had this in mind when she composed the prayer that is our school motto, i.e. Deo adjuvante, non timendum, i.e. with God at my side, I will not be afraid. When I realize this, THEN I can live the present moment to its fullest.

## Crossword Companion



### ACROSS

- Fair
- Ballet step
- Fears
- Beers
- Era
- Tardy
- Horse
- Small hawk
- Over (Poetic)
- Said
- Probe
- Rotatable disc
- Anger
- Openly
- Baba
- Husk
- Fish eggs
- Vent for release of gas
- Turner
- Attila was their king
- Out of the park
- Chasm
- Heat source
- Eire
- Wire

### DOWN

- Fuel
- Altitude (abbr.)
- Meadow
- On an incline
- Two
- Past
- Sane
- Caustic substance
- Stay
- Female (suf.)
- Sow
- Shelter
- Lofty
- Snatch
- Small stream

- Firn
- Frost
- Tides
- Former Russian Emperor
- Food chewed a second time
- Edges
- Firm
- Disputes
- Speech sound
- Crowd
- Sole
- Leap
- Avoid
- Wailer
- Extended time
- Color
- Lease
- God of War
- Long Live (lt.)
- Winter vehicle
- Old coin
- Runs hitters knock in (abbr.)
- Type of weapon (abbr.)
- Manuscript (abbr., pl.)

## Get Involved

By Todd Perkins

Have you ever wondered what goes on at a "S.U.B." meeting, or who the Bobby Witcher Society is, or what O.P.P.A. stands for? If not, you should! Student organizations can be the most enjoyable part of college if you're willing to put forth just a little effort. You are needed! Organizations all over campus are looking for people to help. You don't have to be especially creative, or a genius, just willing. Come to a few meetings, listen, give some input if anything comes to mind. There are groups designed to cater to everyone -- commuter or resident, married or single, grad student, non-traditional, you name it.

-- Dave Wopat: Solo \* Returns! -- Residence Hall Association -- "RHA" designs programs and events specifically for the on campus students. Recent events include the "RHA Halloween Bash", Homecoming Bonfire, and Exam Week Care packages. They also concern themselves with complaints and hall improvements.

This year, RHA has reached its largest membership ever and is hoping to keep growing to make the residence halls a more home-like environment.

Society for the Advancement of Management -- "SAM" provides opportunities for students to use, refine and acquire new management skills through lectures, leadership seminars, conferences, counseling and field trips.

Avila College for Social Concerns -- "ACSC" is concerned with improving the quality of life worldwide, starting at Avila. Issues discussed range from the cold war to hunger in Africa. Their current project involves the rapidly increasing number of homeless in America -- specifically in Kansas City. They are sponsoring a picnic for the

homeless on March 26 to raise consciousness of this problem in the K.C. area.

The Bobby Witcher Society -- well known for its field excursions, Bobby Witcher Society studies and collects specimens of various wildlife -especially reptiles. They also give presentations to local schools and groups.

Other groups are oriented toward majors, but most are open to anyone with an interest.

Avila Student Nurses' Association

-- "ASNO"

Avila Social Workers' Association

Avila Medical Society

Avila Medical Technology Student Association

Avila Music Association

Avila College Dance Club "ACDC"

Avila College Pre-Law Society

Avila College Theatre Club

Communication Club

Science Club

History Club

International Students Club

Fellowship Club

Organization of Politics and Public Administration "OPPA"

Avila College Yearbook

Avila Examiner

(You're Reading It!)

Student involvement is a big deal, as you can see. Become a part of it.

For more information on any campus organization, contact the Office of Student Life in Marian Centre near the T.V. lounge. We'll be seeing you soon!!

## Sigma Theta Tau Induction

On December 7, 1987, several Avila nursing students and area community members were inducted into Sigma Theta Tau, Beta Lambda Chapter. Sigma Theta Tau, the only national honor society of nursing, offers professional growth and leadership development through participation in activities and programs to its members.

The purposes of the organization are to:

- recognize the achievement of scholarship of superior quality,
- recognize the development of leadership qualities,
- foster high professional standards,
- encourage and support research and other creative work in nursing,
- strengthen commitment on the part of individuals to the ideals and purposes of the profession of nursing.

The new members inducted are:

Nora Alonzo, Pamela Bryant, Paula Childress, Mary Ann Clark, Ann Cooper, Eileen Fonseca, Val Hill, Evelan Holder, Claudia Horton, Cynthia McArdle, Roxzanna Moore, Lois Moushey, Gina Nicollino, Jennifer Porter, Kimberly Praiswater, Terry Roos, Mary Sappington, Barbara Shatto, and Ila Jean Ulrich.

Three scholarships were also awarded through Sigma Theta Tau to students in the nursing department. The recipients of these were junior Barbara Cappazello, and seniors Eileen Fonseca and Kimberly Praiswater.

Congratulations is extended to these women and best wishes in all of their career aspirations.

**The Color Purple**

It's about life.  
It's about love.  
It's about us.

**PG-13**

S.U.B.  
presents  
**The Color Purple**  
February 19, 1988 at 7:00 p.m.  
in Marian Centre Lounge.

"A story filled with great love and great emotional depth. It should be seen for the wondrous performances. All are absolutely incredible."

— Chantal Westerman, KHJ-TV

## Examiner Staff

Editor .....	Debby Amos
Layout Editor .....	Marie Imming
Copy Editor .....	Kim Praiswater
Feature Editor .....	Patrick C. Wood
Sports Editor .....	Mike McCollow
Reporters .....	Tim Barchak, Lisa Ruggiero, Todd Perkins and Jeff Barker
Advisor .....	Beth Maren
Photographer .....	Condus Donell

The Avila Examiner is published bi-monthly during the academic college year by Avila College for students, faculty, administration and staff. This publication is made possible through funding from Student Activity Fees.

Writers, photographers, and editors are needed to fill staff vacancies. Interested students, with or without newspaper experience, are encouraged to become involved in the publication of this student newspaper.

Opinions expressed in the Avila Examiner do not necessarily represent the official position of Avila College but rather that of the Editorial Staff of the Examiner.

The Avila Examiner reserves the right to edit and print all materials received for publication.

For more information please contact Beth Maren, Director of Residence Life, Marian Centre, Avila College, 11901 Wornall Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64145.

**F  
R  
E  
E**

## Editorial Comment

### Somebody Cry Why, why, why?

By Lisa Ruggiero

"Strong wind destroy our home, many dead, tonight it could be you..." Paul Simon's song "Homeless" describes the plight of homeless South Africans who live on the side of the mountains in caves. Yet, these words can also describe the homeless who are not quite as far away as Africa. Millions of homeless people exist, barely, in our own country, and right here in Kansas City.

Avila College for Social Concerns has concentrated on the issue of the homeless throughout this year. We planned the SLEEP-OUT, which took place on January 19, to create an awareness of the seriousness of the problem. It is hoped that his awareness will lead to more educated voters going to the polls and electing people who will gradually change the system.

A change is needed in many areas, but the most important thing people should concentrate on is increasing their degree of compassion for these homeless people. All human beings, especially citizens in a country as rich as America, should be able to live in comfortable, affordable housing. Currently, the lucky homeless live in shelters. Shelters are a necessary evil. We should have a system that is not based on short term, charitable handouts, but long

term, positive results.

The federal government is obviously not providing enough affordable housing. Many inner city areas are filled with vacant buildings that are not in use. The news has sometimes shown some of the homeless people being physically dragged from these empty structures. Something is wrong when there are buildings that could be converted to housing projects, but certain members of the society consider these homeless people only an "eyesore" to the neighborhood.

Some people may look at the homeless and say that they are "bums" and that it's their own fault. Contrary to popular belief, drug addicts, alcoholics and the mentally ill make up only a small percentage of the homeless. There is a new and growing group of homeless that includes young mothers and children; some of whom are abused, entire families whose breadwinners have been laid off, runaways, migrant workers and people who are victims of floods and other disasters.

Some people may look at the homeless and think that they could get a job if they really wanted to. Actually, some of these people have been laid off. After these people have been homeless for awhile, it becomes more and more difficult

to look presentable for a job interview. They have no place to shower or clean up, no clean or decent clothes, and sometimes no means of transportation to get to a possible job opening.

It is a sad predicament but this issue has only recently been addressed. This problem is not getting any better. ACSC participated in the SLEEPOUT and if nothing else we realized how much we have. We now appreciate things we took for granted. We spent a long, cold night outside, but we did not come close to experiencing what the homeless have to suffer with every day.

What can the average person do about it? We can be aware of where our tax dollars go. We can exercise our voting privileges. As a representative for the homeless said on the Oprah Winfrey Show, "This administration is the result of our political choices. We can afford to support the contras in Central America, we can afford to support Star Wars, we can afford to support a questionable regime in South Africa, yet millions of our own citizens are homeless." It seems that every American should have a home, yet tonight in Kansas City, thousands of homeless people will struggle through another cold and dreary night. "Somebody cry Why?, why?, why?"

## Deans List

### Fall 1987

Aguirre, Janet Marie  
Aiman, Deborah Marie  
Aiman, Dylan M.  
Albors, Judith Ann  
Alexander, Leanne Marie  
Anderson, Kenyon S.  
✓Armbruster, Bonnie Mary  
Barker, Jeffrey Brian  
Bauer, Kathleen A.  
Bhaduri, Kaushik  
Bock, Janet Christine  
Bonan, Kathleen Suzanne  
Bradley, Darren W.  
Brandenburg, Marva Lou  
Brecheisen, Nancy L.  
Brown, Marilyn J.  
Bunch, Steve Wayne  
Bundy, Sharon Lynn  
Cahill, Bridget Marie  
Canzonere, Carmen Elaine  
Capuzelo, Barbara Eve  
Cejka, Daniel F.  
Childress, Paula Marie  
Chuning, Mark Douglas  
Cisek, Lisa Ann  
Cole, Christel K.  
Cole, Misty Lee  
Coleman, Kelly Dee  
Collier, Sharon Elessia  
Cook, Cynthia Marie  
✓Cooke, Linda Lee  
Corneliusen, Ann Louise  
Crider, Sylvia M.  
Curtis, Teresa Ann  
Dalrymple, Jane E.  
Daugherty, Shawna Elizabeth  
Davis, John William  
Delorenzi, Linda Marie  
Diekroeger, Winn Edwin  
Dodson, Desiree Dawn  
Dougherty, Kathleen J.  
Dowling, Peggy Ann  
Dugan, Kerry Anne  
Edie, Melody Lynn  
Ennis, Shannon Keith  
Falling, Melissa Jo  
Fayne, Betty Jean  
Figge, Diane Marie  
Fleming, Lisa Marie  
Fonseca, Eileen June  
Gates, Lesa Lynn  
Gerard, Cynthia Marie  
Ginson, Lori Renee  
Goeglein, Becky Kay  
Gonier, Catherine Marie  
Gosal, Paul S.  
Gregory, Susan Marie  
Gripp, Jamie Lee  
Griswold, Timothy Michael  
Hansen, Jolene M.  
Harris, Alene Alison  
Hauff, Lisa L.  
Hayes, Lynnette A.  
Healy, Mary F.  
Henderson, Harold Raymond  
Hess, Maria Anne  
Hill, Val Lane  
Hilyard, Abby Gail  
Hoerman, George William  
Hoffman, Mark Andrew  
Horsley, Marilyn Theresa  
Hunnus, John Roland  
Hunt, Robin Renae  
Hunter, Mary Elizabeth  
Illingworth, Deanna Kay  
Jansen, Danny D.  
Jennings, Elizabeth A.  
✓Jones, Patricia Anne  
Jurd, Kimberly Lynn  
Justesen, Tracy Ann  
Kaiser, Carol Ann  
Kamperer, Patricia Geraldine  
Kanies, Krista M.  
Kavanaugh, Kathy Jean  
Kelly, Kimberly Renee  
Kendrick, Shelly D.  
Kistler, Cecile A.  
Kiwalla, Michael Robert  
Klaus, Tobey Beth  
Kubayko, Therese Ann  
Kueser, Nancy Elizabeth  
Kussman, Katherine Anne  
Lach, Ann L.  
Lamb, Charles L.  
Lappe, Cathryn Ann  
Larose, Diane Lucile  
Laster, Dorothy June  
Lavery, Ellen Marie  
—Long, Alberta Mae  
Long, Jennifer Lynn  
Lynas, Angela Christine  
Lyons, Debbie Lynn  
Lysaught, Valerie Jeanne  
Martinez, Dayna Raquel  
Marx, Stephanie A.  
McLaury, Diane Catherine  
McTaggart, Rick D.  
McWilliams, Jo Elaine  
Mercer, Timothy A.  
Merideth, Joyce M.  
Metcalf, Shana Renee  
Michael, Lowell D.  
Mickelberry, Barbara M.  
—Minks, Jo Anne  
Monnig, Susan J.  
Moran, Elizabeth A.  
Mossinghoff, Deborah Ann  
—Mudd, Patricia Ann  
Murphy, Margaret Ann  
Muskin, Roberta E.  
—Nettles, Laura Ann  
Nolker, Elizabeth A.  
O'Reilly, Sharon Therese  
Oothout, Monica J.  
Osborn, Vita A.  
Patchen, Hal Dean  
Pennington, Diane Margaret  
Perrot, Barbara A.  
Peterson, Lorraine  
Praiswater, Kimberly Ann

The  
**International  
Students' Club**  
cordially invites all  
Students, Faculty and Staff to

### Gourmet Day

When:  
February 11, 1988 from  
11:30 - 1:30

Where:  
**Marian Centre Snack Bar**  
Gourmet Day is an opportunity  
for the Avila community to familiarize  
itself with the food, cultures,  
and people of its international students.  
So take a trip around the world without leaving  
campus and enjoy the mid-day festivities.

## Reach Awards Announced

The winners of the nursing department's annual REACH for EXCELLENCE award were announced Monday, January 18, 1988 at a reception in Whitfield Centre. Sister Diane Figge from the junior class was awarded a twenty dollar gift certificate from Life Uniforms, and a stethoscope. Paula Childress and Eileen Fonseca from the senior class were awarded a gift certificate for ten percent off at Jay's Uniforms and the Mosby State Board review books.

These students were nominated by their classmates for exhibiting the following qualities:

R responsible  
E enthusiastic  
A active in school, community, professional and family activities  
C demonstrates care and concern for fellow students  
H offers help when needed

Congratulations are offered to these young women and the best of luck with their remaining time at Avila College.

## Once Upon a Picnic

By Tim Barchak

This Autumn Avila College for Social Concerns began to plan the Picnic for the Homeless. The idea was to raise the consciousness of Kansas City to the plight of the homeless, who number around 10,000 in our community. The picnic hopes to bring 10% or 1000 of these people together for a day of food and celebration on Saturday, March 26 at Barney Allis Plaza.

Over the past few months ACSC has drawn closer to their goal in several ways. First, membership in ACSC has grown considerably, infusing the group with new energy. Second, the membership has been divided into committees to deal with numerous facets of the project: Public Relations, Food, Equipment/Facilities, Homeless Relations, Security and Entertainment. Third, ACSC organized the Avila SLEEPOUT for the homeless to promote the upcoming event. Finally, ACSC has already secured sizable donations in food and some equipment.

ACSC is continuing preparations as spring and the big event approach. The group is very grateful for the support of the Avila Community. Students, faculty and staff are invited to become involved with the picnic. It will be Kansas City's noblest gesture of concern for the homeless.

Continued on page 4

**Jazz up  
your  
mid-week  
Blues**

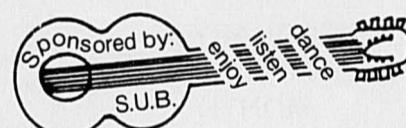
12:00 noon  
in the Snack Bar

— Wednesdays —

February 10 - Bill Drybread Brass  
February 17 - Hotlick All Stars

Sponsored by: S.U.B.

**Dave Wopat  
Solo Tour  
Returns!!!**

 Sponsored by:  
S.U.B.

Feb. 8 - Monday  
8:30 p.m.  
in  
Marian Centre

## The Maximum Good From the Minimum Wage

By Tim Barchak

This year Congress will have an opportunity to pass a piece of legislation that is both morally right and economically sound. The proposal to raise the minimum wage should be approved because it would bring millions up from poverty, and provide the economy with a much needed stimulus.

Minimum wage affects a much larger section of the public than just teenagers frying hamburgers. According to the AFL-CIO, about 12.5 million jobs are directly linked to the minimum wage. Only one minimum wage worker in three is a teenager. In recent years the labor market has diminished as U.S. corporations have moved overseas. Many adults have been forced to take the \$3.35 per hour jobs in vain attempts to support themselves.

According to statistics from Congressman Alan Wheat's office, "A family of three, with one wage earner at minimum wage is earning \$6,968 per year, \$1,800 less than the \$8,741 federal poverty threshold." The Congressman's report goes on to state that, "Fifty-eight percent of all the new jobs created between 1979 and 1984 pay less than what a full-time minimum wage job would pay."

Raising the minimum wage would benefit the economy as a whole. The current minimum wage keeps many workers from participating in the economy. A raise in wages would broaden the consumer base of the economy, stimulating production and creating more jobs. There is considerable historical evidence that shows

employment has increased with each raise in the minimum wage since the initial legislation in 1938. Also, the federal budget deficit would be reduced by an increase in tax paying workers, and a decrease in those receiving government assistance.

A just minimum wage is a hand up, not a hand out. It is economic stimulation where it should be, at the grass-roots level. The working class of this nation can be compared to Atlas with the world upon his shoulders. If we starve this Atlas until his knees buckle, then the whole world trembles. Could our recent economic tremors be a result of our callous disregard for the welfare of the working class?

## The Saga Continues

By Debby Amos

As the school van drove eastward down I-70 it appeared to be just another normal road trip. Like so many times before, I put my headphones on, bunched up in a small ball against the seat in front of me and began to cat nap. It was the same routine that I had followed for four basketball seasons. While Anne Murray (my cat nap tape) sang softly in my ears, I tuned out my teammates, their music, and the various other rattles and van noises. I had all but dozed off when suddenly a loud pop penetrated my dreams. Startled, I sat up to watch Coach maneuver the van from the far lane to the right side of the road, and then finally to a complete halt.

At first all was quiet, no one seemed to know what to say. Coach tried once, then twice to restart the ailing vehicle. Both times nothing happened. Oh no, I quietly whispered, not again. Visions of another road trip flooded my mind. How could it possibly happen to me twice, I mentally wondered.

Three seasons earlier it also appeared a normal road trip. But that day, normal rapidly changed into a three hour lay-over alongside a deserted highway. Please, I prayed, not again.

After attempting to start the fine piece of machinery once again, both coaches went to call for help. After twenty minutes or so a tow truck from the town of Odessa pulled up. We're saved, we all thought, we'll be back on the road in no time. Lifting the hood of the vehicle the man began to laugh. It was then that we all realized we would not make it to the game on time.

Backing his truck up, suddenly we were lifted up and being towed. I'm not sure how many people have ever been towed in a van with eleven other people, but it's not too terribly enjoyable. As the van entered the town of Odessa, cars began to stop and wave at us. These people seemed humored that a van load of people was being pulled by a small tow truck. I felt almost like a caged llama at the zoo. I honestly waited for them to throw food.

Once at the gas station the coaches left the van, leaving the children to fend for ourselves. After what felt like days, the tow truck again lifted us up. Unbelievable, we all thought. The van was actually being pulled down the center of town; only this time the coaches had stayed behind. Turning into

another gas station, the van was unhooked, then pushed into the garage. To our horror, the garage door was closed, leaving ten members of the basketball team alone in a gas station.

Thoughts of starvation, death and missing the Drury/Avila men's basketball game flashed into our minds. We had to get out and be free. Taking our earthly belongings with us, we climbed out of the van and entered the front office. Jimmy the friendly mechanic told us to make ourselves at home; it would be awhile. Exactly what is awhile to someone who has already been waiting for over an hour and a half?

If this had been a normal road trip, we would have been warming up, getting ready for the start of the game. But instead, we were fighting over the single chair in the office. Once in a while Jimmy would come through to make sure we hadn't stolen anything from the candy & pop freezer. (It was a tempting idea.)

FINALLY, an hour and forty-five minutes after the initial pop, a new van arrived in the oh-so-beautiful town of Odessa, Missouri to take us on to the game. I think the van driver knew it was us because we were all sitting along the side of the road with a sign Fayette or anywhere else for that matter.

I am glad to say that once we finally arrived at our destination, we won in overtime. At least we

had a victory to soften the lost Saturday afternoon. I'm not sure where exactly the van is now, whether Jimmy still has it or it's been shot, but at least I know I will never have to climb aboard it again.

## R.A.'s

R.A.'s are human beings  
They eat, sleep and breathe,  
They are no different  
From you or me.

They laugh, they sing,  
They party, they cry  
They're not superior people  
They'll eventually die.

They love, and they need love,  
They're not that secure,  
Their feelings can be hurt,  
But they'll still endure.

They have mothers, fathers,  
Sisters and brothers,  
They weren't found under man-  
hole covers.

They correct you, they serve you,  
They try not to be rude,  
They're normal people,  
They hate institutional food.

They're a special type of people,  
A gift to your life.  
They're understanding and em-  
pathetic,

They will intervene during strife.

So the next time you see one,  
say howdy-good day,  
And you might meet the person,  
Not just the R.A..

## ... and more from OPPA

By Don Pinaire

The Organization of Politics and Public Administration, OPPA, proudly proclaims that the first annual "OOPS" Raffle a success. We wish to thank the Avila community for their support and participation, also the following businesses for their generous donations: Applebee's Restaurant, Allis Plaza Hotel and the Waterfall Cafe, The Coffee Express Company, Dickinson Theaters, Elizabeth's Cosmetique, The Frame Game, Hair Cutting As You Like It, the Kansas City Chiefs, the Kansas City Comets, the Kansas City Royals, Leawood Floral and Gifts, The Licker Store Restaurant, Life Uniforms, Mademoiselle Spa, The Necessary, Northland Video Exchange #2, Pennylane Records, Personal Computer Center, TCBY, Videolane, Watts Mill Cinema IV, Wheatley Carpet, and many others.

Even though three drawings have been held, there are many wonderful prizes yet to be awarded in the three monthly drawings remaining. Still to be drawn is the final prize valued at \$600. You may enter the "OOPS" Raffle by purchasing one or as many of the remaining tickets as you wish. These tickets are being sold at \$1 each or six for \$5.

Funds generated by the raffle will help OPPA to achieve its goals of "developing and encouraging leadership, competence, merit, and scholarship, to serve as an

outlet for students interested in the aspects of politics and public administration, and to develop greater public awareness of Avila College" by sponsoring and inviting local, state, national, and international politicians and administrators to appear at Avila College during the year.

The first OPPA sponsored event of the 1988 Spring Semester was "MEDICAL MALPRACTICE; PRESENT PROBLEMS AND FUTURE RISKS" which featured presentations and discussions with Mark Haskins, from the Risk Management at St. Luke's Hospital, a local physician, and Gregory Valeisides, an attorney. The program will be at 7:30 on the evening of January 27, 1988 in the Whitfield Centre. Refreshments were served after the program.

Meetings of the Organization of Politics and Public Administration are open to any and all students of Avila College that may be interested and is not reserved to those students only that are majoring in politics or public administration. Meeting times, dates, and locations will be posted on the organization news board in Marian Centre and on the board across from the Political Science Offices. OPPA's faculty advisor is Steven A. Mosher, Ph.D. OPPA's officers for the 1987-88 year are Debbie Mossinghoff, President; Cathy McBee, Vice President; and Don Pinaire, Secretary/Treasurer.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### Renew Comes to Avila

**RENEW**, a process of spiritual renewal now being implemented in 7 local parishes, is being brought to Avila. There will be small group discussions based upon the scripture, special liturgies, and a large group event. See Dr. Steve Mosher, Social Sciences Department, O'Rielly Hall, for more details.

**STARTS  
FEBRUARY 14TH  
RUNS FOR SIX WEEKS!!**

Ripperger, Mary Anne  
Robie, Teri K.  
Rupard, Teresa M.  
Sappington, Mary Hazel  
Schlumperger, Julie Diana  
Schroeder, Lora Jayne  
Scoles, Robert Michael  
Scott, Sterling Christopher  
Sears, Karen Lee  
Shay, Gina Marie  
Simoes, Renee Annette  
Smith, Marie E.  
Strinaman, Traci Ann  
Terwilliger, David E.  
Titus, J. Gregg  
Troxler, Belinda Ruth  
Truman, Jr., Richard Lynn  
Trumbo, Crystal Diane  
Turek, Martha G.  
Twenter, Mary Sharon  
Uhlenhake, Mary L.  
Valentine, Loren Jean  
Verkamp, Mary Pat  
Vines, Cynthia A.  
Vogel, Adrienne Elaine  
Watts, Christopher Lee  
Wheeler, Lois Jane  
Whitaker, Susan Carol  
Whitlock, Sydney K.  
Wienshienk, Aaron Thoma  
Williams, Tammy Marie  
Wilson, Cindy A.  
Wilson, Jennifer Alane  
Wood, Patrick Charles  
Wycoff, Ann Margaret  
Yarmek, Joseph Nicholas  
Yoss, Kari Sue  
Young, Penny Jean  
Yust, Cynthia Ann

Earn \$50-\$100 per day marketing credit cards to students on your campus. Work F/T or P/T. Call 1-800-932-0528.

### FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**February 1** - Recital "Of and About Black People" at UMKC's White Hall

**February 9** - Mass with Rev. Robert Stewart, 4:00, Foyle Hall

**February 19** - "The Color Purple" Film presentation by SUB, 7:00, Marian Lounge

**February 27** - Gospel Celebration, 6:00, Whitfield Centre

**February 14 - March 15** - Dean Mitchell (art exhibit), Thornhill Art Gallery

Look for details on these and other events.

### JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION!!

SUB would like to thank you for your help in choosing next year's films by filling out the film surveys found around campus.

The film surveys need to be turned in no later than **February 12, 1988**.

Thanks again for your time.

Spring forward - apply early for Financial Aid.

So you don't fall short on Money!

Avila College for Social Concerns would like to thank the entire campus for their support of our homeless project, as shown through your response to our sleep out, held January 19th. Thank you.

Hey Patrick Wood-  
"What's up Doc?"

Newspaper staff feels as if we lost a little weight, doesn't it?

Hi baby-do, I'm thinking about you...

Please no more flea baths.

Congratulations to Penny and Kathy B. Best of luck.

**Pull the wool over your eyes.  
And save 10%.**



If you're feeling sheepish because you don't have any lightweight sweaters, head to Benetton....Because with this coupon, you can clip 10% off the price of any of our loose, lovable, lightweight sweaters. But hurry, offer ends February 28.

**benetton**

A

## Dean's List

Continued from page 3

Putz, Susanna J.  
Ragland, Peggy Jean  
Redfield, Janene R.  
Reynoldson, Michelle Ann  
Riordan, Celestia Raye

## Crossword Puzzle Solution

S	A	L	A	P	'S	'A	W	E	'S
A	L	E	S	R	'G	'L	A	T	E
S	T	A	L	L	'I	'N	K	'E	'D
G	R	O	P	E	'D	'I	'L	'A	'L
R	I	L	E	'P	'U	'B	'L	'C	'Y
M	I	'S	'H	'E	'L	'R	'O	'E	'Y'
B	L	W	H	O	'L	'A	N	'A	'N'
R	A	V	I	N	'H	'U	'M	'E	'R'
R	A	V	I	N	'T	'E	'L	'G	'R'
T	S	A	R	'E	'Y'	'C	'E	'B	'S'